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REMARKS

The Examiner has objected to the abstract of the present application for lacking conciseness and clarity. The Applicant is hereby submitting a new abstract.

The Examiner has objected to the figures for failing to contain the contents of paragraph 48, namely "wherein rear projection screen 16 and projector 10 are on a trolley 18 moves along a rail 20". In the enclosed corrected drawing (Figure 5), the Applicant has provided the appropriate correction.

With respect to the objection to the drawings for failing to show elements of claims 22, 23 and 24, as these claims have been cancelled, the objection is now moot.

Claims 1-4, 6-18, 21-27, 30, 31, 33, 34 and 37 have been rejected by the Examiner for being anticipated by U.S. patent 2,968,211 to Douglas (hereinbelow Douglas). The remaining claims have been rejected for being obvious in view of the same Douglas reference.

Claims 1-7 and 22-37 have been cancelled. Claims 8-21 remain pending in the application.

Independent claim 8 is directed to a method for controlling a depth of field when filming a scene. More specifically, the method includes providing a rear-projection screen behind a subject in a foreground, projecting an image onto the rear-projection screen to act as a background for the scene, filming the scene including the foreground and the background and applying a varying degree of focus to a plurality of objects in the image as a function of a degree of focus of each of the objects for an intended distance between each of the objects and the subject. In the method of the present invention, the image projected onto the rear-projection screen contains a plurality of objects, which are focused to varying degrees in order to relay a certain sense distance between the objects and the subject in the foreground. An example of such a focus adjustment is described in the application at paragraph 29:

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"By adjusting the focus of the image projected onto the back screen using the projector, the back image can appear slightly out of focus and the illusion of a shortened depth of field is provided."

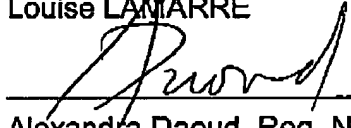
Other examples, referring to different levels of adjustment for different objects in the background image, are provided at paragraph 30 of the application.

Douglas discloses a method for creating a realistic background using a background film projected on a screen, during shooting a movie with a camera, the method involving correlating the movement of a projector, the screen and the camera. The method is particularly concerned with the movement of the projector and the screen repeating the movement of the camera used to record the background film. The method of Douglas is not concerned with and does not address the problem of controlling the depth of field when filming a movie scene. Furthermore, Douglas does not disclose varying the focus of a background image to create a depth of field. Therefore, Douglas does not disclose applying a varying degree of focus to a plurality of objects in a background image as a function of a degree of focus of each of the objects for an intended distance between each of the objects and the subject.

The Applicants believe the present application to be in a condition for allowance and early and favorable notice is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise LAMARRE

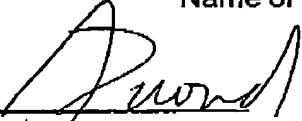
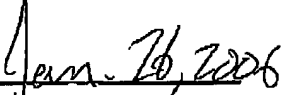


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 Signature	 Date

Appl. No. 10/791,147
Amdt. dated January 26, 2006
Reply to Office Action of September 26, 2005

ANNOTATED SHEET SHOWING CHANGES

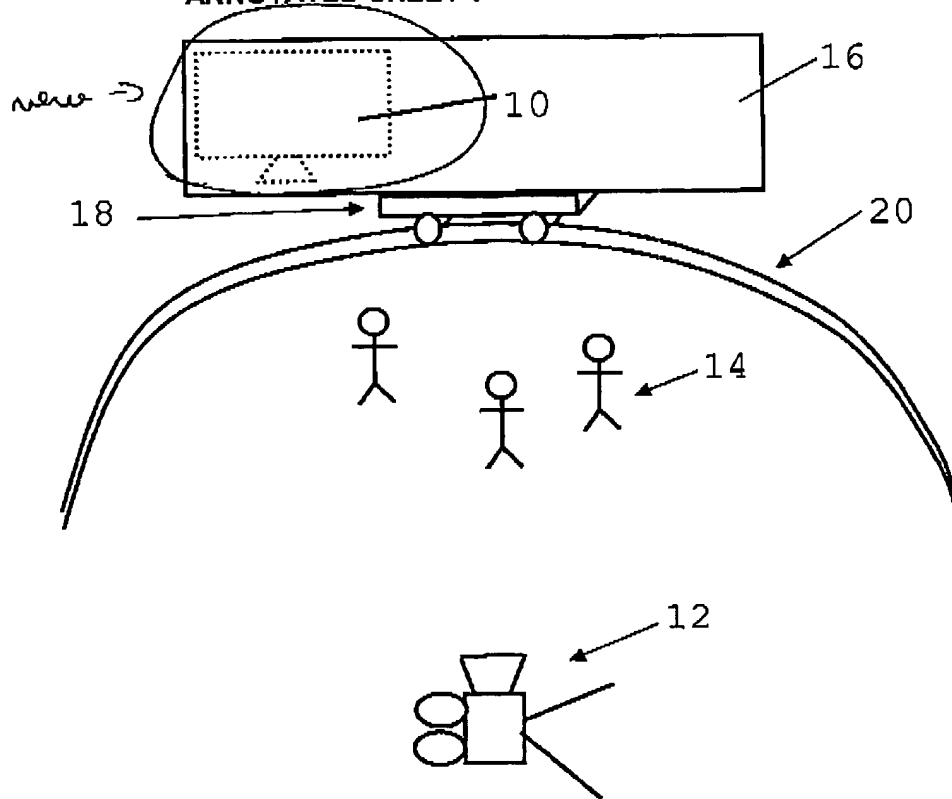


FIGURE 5